

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
MAPLE-STEELE JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
FEBRUARY 5, 2015

The Maple-Steele Joint Water Resource District met on February 5, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Jurgen Suhr, Chairman; Rodger Olson and Gerald Melvin, Maple River Water Resource District; Josh Ihry (by telephone) and Greg Thykeson, Steele County Water Resource District; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Brenda Lovgren, Administrative Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat, Engineer for the Board; Pat Downs, Red River Retention Authority (RRRA); Keith Weston, Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS); Brooks Whitmore, Cass County Soil Conservation District; Lloyd Knight and Steve Faught, Amenia Township property owners. Absent was Tor Bergstrom, Steele County Water Resource District.

Upper Maple River Dam – NRCS process/funding

Pat Downs and Keith Weston met with the Board to discuss possible federal funding for the Upper Maple River Dam Project. The PL-566 Program would require completion of a Small Watershed Protection Plan in order to obtain any construction funding, which would take 12-18 months to complete, and the project would need a positive benefit:cost ratio. The Board would also need to enter into an agreement with the federal government. Officials from NRCS National Headquarters are planning to be in the area the last week of this month. The group will be asked about the possibility of getting credit for land rights and planning work completed on the project. The Board will need to weigh the benefit of federal funding against the additional project costs due to design requirements.

Upper Maple River Dam - land acquisition update

Mike Opat updated the Board on land acquisition for the Upper Maple River Dam Project.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, it was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Melvin and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Jurgen Suhr
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer